Central assistance for Punjab

2043. SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA:
SARDAR GURCHARAN SINGH TOHRA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Punjab has sought additional Central assistance from Planning Commission for the implementation of its Annual Plan, 2003-04; and

(b) if so, the quantum of assistance sought and how much Central assistance is proposed to be provided and by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In course of discussions in a meeting for determination of Annual Plan 2003-04 of Punjab held on 24.7.2003, the Chief Minister of the State requested Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission for Additional Central Assistance amounting to Rs. 191 crore for implementing some important schemes Deputy Chairman considered the request in the meeting and allocated one-time Additional Central Assistance of Rs. 50 crore to the Government of Punjab.

Agricultural growth in Orissa

2044. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have recommended investment for agricultural growth in Orissa;

(b) whether emphasis has been laid on development of rural infrastructure and irrigation facilities to dry lands etc. and provision of rural credit to the farmers; and

(c) Orissa being the most poor, backward and cash-strapped State the amount of Central assistance proposed to be given to the State to help them to work on the recommendations of the Commission to bost their economy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) For Annual Plan 2003-04 of Orissa, Central Assistance of Rs. 3813.95 crore is proposed to be provided in addition to the assistance given to the State under Central Plan and Centrally Sponsored Schemes.

Objectives of National Population Policy

2045. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the medium-term objective set in the National Population Policy (NPP) to achieve the Total Fertility Rate (TFR) at 2.1 level by 2010 would restrict our population to 111.90 crore by 2011, whereas, the Planning Commission target to restrict population growth during 2001-11 to 16.2 per cent would result in a population size exceeding 119 core;

(b) what such higher target of Planning Commission, which might also negate the long-term objective in the NPP for a stable population by 2045, is attributable to; and

(c) whether Planning Commission has drawn the target in consultation with National Commission on population?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) to (c) The medium-term objective of the National Population Policy (NPP) 2000 is to achieve the Total Fertility Rate (TFR) 2.1 by 2010. The population projections used in the NPP document were based on the 1991 census data. Assuming that the TFR 2.1 would be achieved by the year 2010, the NPP projected the population for 2010 at 110.07 crore. However, the 2001 census has shown that the actual population had exceeded the projections made in the NPP. The Planning Commission has set a target to bring down decadal population growth to 16.2% between 2001 and 2011. This target is consistent with the medium-term and long-term objectives set in the NPP. If this target is achieved, the population of the country will be around 119.3 crore by the year 2011. The Tenth Plan demographic targets have been made in consultation with the National Commission